

## RURAL DISTRICTS GAIN IN VALUES

INCREASES IN LAST FIVE YEARS  
ESTIMATED AT FORTY-  
SIX PER CENT.

### OSARKS KEEP DOWN AVERAGE

Average Value of Unimproved Lands  
Throughout United States is \$50.54  
Per Acre—Missouri Over  
That Figure.

Jefferson City, Mo. Missouri's gain in rural prosperity during a period of five years is shown through the fact that improved farm lands in the state increased in value 23 per cent and unimproved areas 46 per cent, 1917 over 1912, according to a bureau of labor statistics just issued. Unimproved lands averaged \$37 per acre in 1912, \$50 in 1916 and \$54 in early 1917. For improved lands the average was \$54 in 1912, \$65 in 1916 and \$68 in 1917. The increase, 1917 over 1916, was greater, in proportion, than during any other year of the 5-year period considered. For all plow lands the average worth in 1917, improved and unimproved, the state at large, was \$60 as compared to \$59 in 1916.

The average price, 1917, all improved and unimproved poor farm land was \$42.50, and for good farm land, \$76. Were it not for the Ozark regions Missouri's agricultural lands, improved and unimproved, would average in worth as much per acre as those of Illinois, Nebraska or Iowa. However what prestige Missouri loses in agricultural worth of lands in the southwestern portion it makes up through the value of its annual production of lead, zinc and other minerals from there. Illinois, Nebraska and Iowa contain more extensive level stretches, a topographical condition which makes their annual wheat crop larger than that of Missouri and for that reason their agricultural lands average more in worth per acre than those of Missouri. When it comes to Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma and even Kansas with its tremendous annual wheat crop, Missouri ranks ahead of them in average worth per acre of farm lands, as the following compilation demonstrates:

Missouri's improved lands averaged \$69 per acre in early 1917; Illinois, \$140; Iowa, \$156; Nebraska, \$80; Kansas, \$60; Oklahoma, \$35; Arkansas, \$32; Tennessee, \$46, and Kentucky, \$47.50. For unimproved areas in early 1917 Missouri lands averaged \$54 per acre; those of Illinois, \$115; Oklahoma, \$26; Kansas, \$47; Nebraska, \$67 and Iowa, \$128.

All unimproved lands of the United States, considered as a whole, has an early 1917 value of \$50.54 per acre as compared to Missouri's \$54 average, a condition which establishes that the high market worth of Missouri's unimproved lands went a long way towards raising the general value per acre of all the unimproved stretches of land in the United States.

### Critics Indicted.

Joseph J. Crites of Rolla, Mo., named as the attorney who attempted to secure the passage of the optometry bill in the last legislature, was indicted at Springfield by the Greene county grand jury, according to a reliable authority connected with the investigation.

Crites is charged in the indictment with having agreed to a fee of \$3,500, contingent upon the passage of the bill to license optometrists. It is reported. The indictment against Crites is said to have been based on section 3150 of the revised statutes, known as the legislative lobbying act, which forbids any person from accepting money contingent on the passage of a bill.

### Counties on Defense Basis.

The Missouri council of defense convened here to cast up accounts and ascertain what has been accomplished. Sixty-two counties have been fully organized, Secretary William F. Saunders reported.

Organization will be continued until every county is fully organized and 1,200 groups of men have been enrolled in the propaganda of the national council of defense to increase the products of the soil and promote conservation.

### Wants to Drop Trains.

Application of the Frisco railroad for authority to take 24 passenger trains out of service was heard by the Missouri public service commission. All the trains are local with the exception of one between St. Louis and Monett.

### Leonard's Chances Lessen.

The appointment of James Y. Player of St. Louis as a member of the state tax commission probably will prevent the appointment of Thomas J. Leonard of St. Louis as state factory inspector, for which Leonard was making a vigorous fight.

Three St. Louisans have been appointed to state jobs by Gov. Gardner, these being R. Perry Spencer for secretary of the state insurance department, Edward Fied as member of the public service commission and Player as member of the tax commission.

### Orders Liquor Probe.

Gov. Gardner instructed Attorney General McAllister to investigate reports that liquor is being sold illegally to soldiers at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, and at the army post at Dryden, Platte county.

This action followed the receipt of a letter sent to the governor by Congressman Dyer, who stated that "reports of conditions at Jefferson Barracks are dangerous to the continuance of an army post." Gen. McAllister, with all the officials necessary has promised relief.

### Roads Ask Higher Rates.

Trunk line railroads in Missouri have presented to the state public service commission an application for an increase in rates in both branches of the service. The raise in rates for freight will be equivalent to a boost of nearly 40 per cent if the commission consents.

The application will ask that the present rates be advanced to the level of the interstate freight rates, plus 15 per cent, which would approximate an increase of nearly 40 per cent.

There is an application pending before the commission to increase passenger rates in this state on interstate traffic to a flat 3-cent per mile basis without round trip or mileage book concessions.

### Inland Waterways Committee.

The council of national defense announces the creation of an inland water transportation committee, with Gen. W. M. Black, chief of engineers, U. S. A., as chairman; Daniel Willard, who is chairman of the advisory committee of the council, is a member, ex-officio.

The other members of the committee are as follows: Walter S. Dickey, vice chairman, Kansas City, Mo., president Kansas City-Missouri River Navigation Co.; George E. Bartlett of Philadelphia; Capt. J. F. Ellison, Cincinnati; Joy Morcon, Chicago.

James E. Smith, St. Louis, president Mississippi Valley Waterways Association.

M. J. Sanders, New Orleans.

Lieut. Col. C. Keller of the corps of engineers, will act as secretary of the committee.

It will be the function of the new committee to bring together the companies engaged in inland water transportation, including those on the Great Lakes, in order better to meet the war situation and increase and make more efficient the freight-carrying facilities of the country's waterways. It is hoped through the agency of this committee to aid in some degree in meeting the existing shortage of freight cars in the sections where water transportation is possible.

### Closed Bank Reopens.

The secretary of state has issued a charter to the State Savings Bank of Lebanon, under which name the reorganized Bank of Lebanon has resumed business with a capital of \$25,000.

The Bank of Lebanon, the oldest banking institution in Laclede county, with a capital of \$50,000 and deposits of \$300,000, closed its doors on May 29 and has since been in the hands of the state banking department. The temporary suspension was due to a gradual decrease of deposits, owing to the local shortage of money, the bank's inability to realize quickly on large loans and a quiet run on the institution, following the circulation of unfavorable rumors. The difficulties which caused the bank's embarrassment have been removed, and its affairs have been settled without the loss of a single dollar by the depositors.

### Names Meals Secretary.

The state tax commission announced the election of Olga Meals, who was a clerk in the office of former State Auditor John P. Gordon, as secretary of the commission, at a salary of \$2,400 a year.

The commission appointed Miss Clara Kesweger of Carthage, who was a stenographer in the secretary of state's office during the incumbency of Cornelius Roach, a stenographer, which pays \$1,200 a year.

### Blakey Head of Reformatory.

A. G. Blakey of Booneville was elected by the state prison board as superintendent of the Missouri reformatory in Booneville to succeed R. C. Clark, incumbent and Major appointee. The salary is \$2,500 a year.

Blakey is a Democrat and during the early part of the first term of John P. Gordon, as auditor, he was chief clerk in that office.

### Convicts Buy Ambulance.

Acting Warden Painter announced that \$227.50 was raised at an entertainment given by inmates of the penitentiary toward the purchase of an ambulance for the Missouri national guard.

The public was invited and a subscription taken. Prisoners will raise the balance.

### Paying Too Much.

The discovery that the state penitentiary paid the Lee Jordan Lumber Co. of Jefferson City from 8 to 30 per cent more for lumber during the year 1916 than lumber was selling at retail in the Jefferson City market, caused the state prison board to adopt the formal policy of securing bids from various dealers for every commodity purchased in large quantities.

### Soldiers' Pay.

The war department has authorized the following:

As a convenient reference as to the pay of enlisted men and non-commissioned officers now in force the following statement might be of use. It provides that men of the army whose base pay does not exceed \$21 a month shall receive an increase of \$15 per month; not exceeding \$24 a month an increase of \$12 a month; receiving \$30, \$36 or \$40 a month an increase of \$8; and \$45 or more an increase of \$6.

### Revokes Parole.

The parole granted by former Gov. Major Nov. 29, 1916, to Estel P. "Foot and a Half" Butler, a Jasper county convict, serving 55 years for murder, was revoked by Gov. Gardner upon recommendation of the prison board.

Butler is accused of attempted burglary and gambling in Kansas City. He was imprisoned Jan. 19, 1906, and had served 10 years when paroled. Considering the number of paroles granted, very few violate the provisions.

## HAPPENINGS of the week IN MISSOURI

John Coes, a farmer, was killed and Bert Cozad, also a farmer, badly injured when a motor car in which they were returning to Orient, Ia., from St. Joseph, went off a bridge near Maryville. Cozad was taken to a hospital in Maryville.

While playing in the Missouri Pacific yards at Lamar the 12-year-old son of Mrs. Wesley Knapp was struck and killed by an engine.

Worry over not having registered for military service caused William Mike-man, 27 years old, to shoot himself to death at his home, twenty miles east of Cassville.

While he was out for a walk, Father James Kearfut, an aged retired Catholic priest of St. Joseph, was attacked by a robber, and when he resisted, the footpad shot him three times and escaped. Father Kearfut is not expected to recover from the wounds.

Flag day was observed in Marshall with a parade and addresses. Business houses and dwellings were decorated.

Judge Fred Lamb of Salisbury, sitting as special judge in the Livingston County circuit court, recently fined the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company \$1,000 for violating the state quarantine laws.

When the preliminary hearing of Roy Todd, charged with the murder of his supposed wife on May 30, was begun at Springfield, Mrs. Soprano, food, named in the state's affidavit against Todd as having been slain by him, entered the court room and announced she really was Todd's wife. It developed that the woman Todd is charged with slaying was Mrs. Lizzie Tudnell, with whom he lived.

Dick Carter, wanted at Springfield where he is charged with the murder of the kidnapped baby, Lloyd Keet, is under arrest at Hutchinson, Kan.

Frank R. Rice, a wealthy St. Louis cigar manufacturer, died of heart disease at his summer home near Port Huron, Mich., the other morning. Rice was about 75 years old.

Dr. Guy B. Mitchell, member of the state legislature from Taney county, has issued a statement through a St. Louis newspaper telling that he was approached by a Jefferson City lawyer one night at the last session of the legislature with an offer of \$1,000 to withdraw his opposition to the bill to license chiropractors in Missouri. Dr. Mitchell said he rejected the offer and continued vigorous opposition to the bill, which was opposed by the State Medical Society. The bill was defeated for engrossment in the house.

Arch A. Johnson, criminal judge at Springfield advocates the raising of a substantial reward to offer for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the murderer of Baby Lloyd Keet. This followed the receipt of a letter from a Kansas City woman whose name was withheld, offering to start a fund with a \$100 check. Friends of J. Holland Keet have discussed raising a fund of from \$5,000 to \$15,000 to be used in running down the kidnapers and to offer a reward of \$5,000 with a promise of immunity to any member of the band, except the actual murderer, who will "peach" on the gang.

Miss Nancy Johnson, art student, granddaughter of former Lieutenant Governor Charles P. Johnson, was killed in St. Louis recently when she was thrown from an automobile.

Twenty-five University of Missouri students and instructors who are members of the Missouri ambulance unit departed for New York recently from which place they will sail for France the latter part of June.

The Lathrop House, Lathrop's only hotel building, was destroyed by fire the other day. The structure was a 2-story brick and the loss is about \$11,000.

Flag Day was observed at Rich Hill by a municipal flag raising when Old Glory was swung to the breeze from a 60-foot steel pole in Central Park. The flag, 10x24, together with the pole, was purchased by popular subscription.

A settlement of the strike of motor-men and conductors of the Springfield Traction Company, in progress since October 3, 1916, was announced recently by E. H. Sanderson, president of the Springfield Traction Company. Concessions were made by both sides, he said. The terms of the settlement in detail were withheld.

John Mount, 77 years old, died suddenly of heart disease at his home in Braymer recently. He was a widely known citizen. He served three years in the Civil War and was an Andersonville prisoner.

The annual reunion services at Cedar Primitive Baptist church in the northwestern corner of Callaway county attracted worshippers from Callaway, Boone and Audrain counties. The old Cedar church was organized ninety-six years ago. It was the third Baptist congregation in the state.

Two indictments for perjury, one against Oliver Abel and the other against Herman Frohst, St. Louis optometrists, were voted recently by the grand jury which is conducting an investigation of bribery in the passage of bills by the last legislature.

The general education board, founded by John D. Rockefeller, has written its check for 1 million dollars and will mail it in a few days to Washington University for use in financing research in surgery, medicine and pediatrics.



FLAG MADE ACCORDING TO  
ACT OF CONGRESS 1792

Starry emblem of our country rich in history and honor :: And the grand old banner will soon be making more history and receiving greater honor on the battlefields of Northern France and Belgium

HOUGH as yet the baby of nations, Uncle Sam has many flags of which he has reason to be proud. Most of them are in the possession of the government, but a few are owned by individuals or army posts.

One of them, now kept at the state house at Annapolis, Md., was carried by the Maryland troops during the war of the American Revolution, and is made in accordance with the act of congress, June 14, 1777. It is positively known to have been the regimental flag of the Third Maryland regiment, commanded by Col. John Eager Howard, at the battle of Cowpens, S. C., in January, 1778, in which fight it was held by William Bachelor. Bachelor was sent home to Baltimore wounded and took his flag with him.

After Bachelor's death in March, 1781, the flag remained in his family, and when the British invaded Maryland in 1814 this same flag was carried by William Bachelor's son, in the battle of North Point, as a banner for the Twenty-seventh Maryland regiment. This William Bachelor died in 1855. The flag, in 1907, was presented to the state of Maryland and has since then resided in its capital building at Annapolis.

Another famous banner is the battle flag of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, the same which he successfully won on the masts of his flagships, the Niagara and the Lawrence, in the battle of Lake Erie, September, 1813. This flag had been made at Perry's express command, but at the suggestion of Purser Hambleton, he added the words "Don't give up the ship," the last uttered by Captain Lawrence, killed in the fight in June, 1813, between the English and American forces. These words have erroneously been attributed to Perry, but are, in fact, an adoption of Lawrence's sentence to Perry's flag. The banner is a hunting of one solid color bearing its famous motto in large letters across its face, and is now kept at the United States Naval academy at Annapolis.

### A British Trophy.

In the same chamber at the academy is a gorgeous royal British standard which was captured from the parliament house when the capital of Canada fell, in 1813, into American hands. It is a magnificent ensign with five quarters, all in radiant tones, the heraldic blazonry being such as was used in the time of George III. In one corner is a red lion poised in air, to denote Scotland; in another is the golden harp of Ireland; two other quarters contain three golden rampant lions for England, while in the central quartering is a combination of the arms of Saxony, Hanover, Brunswick and Lüneburg, with some emblems of the Holy Roman empire.

In the National museum in Washington is the real Star Spangled Banner, the same flag which floated over Fort McHenry in September, 1814, when it was attacked by the British, and the one under which Key wrote his immortal poem. Being 30 by 20 feet, it will hang from the second story of a building to the first floor. In spite of time it is well preserved, and the stars and stripes which "gleamed through the perilous fight" are still plainly to be seen.

Mexican trophies are to be seen at the Naval academy. These flags are all unique in design, bearing the Mexican condor standing on a cactus, with a snake in its mouth. There are several of this war, one of them being the flag captured by Gen. Winfield Scott and Commodore Matthew Perry at the fall of Vera Cruz in 1847.

In the antechamber to the rooms of the secretary of war, in Washington, is the famous flag which flew over Fort Sumter in April, 1861, when it was fired on by the Confederate batteries. This was the shot which opened the great war between the states.

The flag of the Merrimac is now owned by the family of the late Capt. Beverly Littlepage, formerly of Washington.

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## FUNERAL OF TURKISH CROWN PRINCE

The following account of the funeral cortege of the Turkish crown prince is given by Alexander Brody, who saw the ceremony:

On the scarlet covered coffin in which the body of Jusuf Izzeddin, the crown prince of Turkey, who had killed himself in his harem, was carried to the grave lay his fez, or "kalbag," in token of his military career.

The coffin was made of wood, for metal is too sacred even for a prince, and it was borne by the eunuchs of the royal household. Jusuf had been kind to his servants although stern with their peers.

A gigantic negro with the eyes of a faithful hound constantly smoothed the red cloth lest a wrinkle might dishonor the solemnity of the occasion, and he kept constant watch on the palbearers. The 600 burly negro eunuchs were as one in their grief. Following them were the chamberlains and attendants of the household, with red caps on their black heads.

The coffin was gently laid on the Mussala tasay, a prayer stone, fragments of an old Greek column dating back to the days of the victorious emperors. The holy prayer was chanted: "Bismillah (In the name of God, the most merciful and gracious). Then the holy men, approached, dervishes of all ranks, and he kept constant watch on the palbearers. The 600 burly negro eunuchs were as one in their grief. Following them were the chamberlains and attendants of the household, with red caps on their black heads.

### SHELLS CORN WITH HIS AUTO

Farmer Tells of Work Done by Twenty Horse Power Car With a Belt-Power Attachment.

"The recent reference in Farm and Fireside to the use of automobiles for doing farm work," says a writer in that paper, "leads me to give my own experience with a belt-power attachment. I bought it last fall and put it on my twenty horse power car. We ground corn and oats with it, also sawed wood and it worked finely. The engine had power to waste. Finally our new four-hole corn sheller arrived. We put it together, put on the belt and lined it up. 'I said, John, do you think it will pull her?' John said, 'All right,' and so we started the engine going, slipped the belt on the pulley of the engine and the sheller started up right away. We threw in a couple of ears of corn, and to our surprise it was gone. We threw in a hoppel, and in a few minutes we had fifty bushels of corn shelled. This was just for a test; the engine had power to spare. 'Since the first of last December we have shelled 40,000 bushels of corn, besides doing some jobs of wood-sawing.'"



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THE FAMOUS "STARRY FLAG" OF  
JOHN PAUL JONES

first American flag that came into existence after the enactment of congress. As evidence of the theory they point to the 12 stars instead of 13. Had this flag had an official predecessor the mistake in the number of stars would hardly have occurred.

This historic standard, kept intact by long and loving care, shows its age in much-frayed edges and worn patches. The 12 stars, arranged in three parallel perpendicular rows, still stand out stanchly on their unstable foundation, for the blue field and the 13 red and white stripes have grown pathetically threadbare.

The National museum contains a collection of remnants of flags that participated in naval engagements from the time of the Revolutionary war to the war with Mexico; also those of foreign vessels of war captured by the navy during those periods. This display of fragments is quite interesting. It was collected by Peter Fawcett of Washington, and presented by him to the library of congress, which transferred it to the National museum.

Among these remnants is a piece of the British flag of La Guerriere, used during her encounter with the Constitution, and of the Java, worsted by the same indomitable American, as well as a fragment of the flag of the Algerine briz Zoua, captured under Decatur.

A Division of the museum's flag collection relates to the Civil war, and the most interesting of these is the garrison flag of Fort Mifflin, in Charleston harbor, South Carolina. This flag was lowered December 26, 1869, when Maj. Robert Anderson, First United States artillery, moved his forces to Fort Sumter. The flag was secured by his second in command, Capt. Abner Doubleday, and remained in his possession until presented to the Smithsonian institution at Washington.

In the National museum also is the United States flag raised in New Orleans by the volunteer flag committee after the occupation in 1862. This was the first Federal flag raised by citizens of any of the Confederate states after the commencement of hostilities. Here, too, is the flag of the United States ship Kearsarge, in use at the time of the surrender of the Confederate cruiser Alabama, also the first United States flag raised in Richmond after the surrender. This flag was headquarters flag by Gen. E. O. C. Ord, U. S. A., when he took possession of the city.

The history of our war with Spain is illustrated at the National museum by a series of flags of picturesque interest. There is here the Spanish garrison flag used at Fort San Cristobal, San Juan, Porto Rico, during the entire war, and floated over the fort during the bombardment by the American fleet, May 12, 1898. There is, too, the flag lowered from the customhouse at the plaza, Ponce, Porto Rico, when it surrendered to the United States. The yellow stripe in this flag was painted red to give it a chance to escape identification. Another flag here was taken from the trenches before Santiago, and still another is a guidon used by Spanish infantry at Porto Rico. The museum is also custodian of the pennant flown by Admiral Schley on the Brooklyn during the battle of Santiago.

The United States Marine corps has a number of flags of vital import. It is proud of its trophies, and well it may be, for it was the foremost in winning them. The Marine corps possesses the first American flag under fire in Cuba. This flag was raised by the Marine battalion at Guantanamo, the tenth of June, 1898, and flew during the hundred hours of continuous fighting by the marines at that point. After its use in this engagement it was hauled down and sent to headquarters at Washington.

Another noteworthy flag belonging to the corps is the signal flag used by Sergeant Quick at the battle of Cuzco. During the engagement the fleet stationed in the bay, while firing on the enemy, was seriously endangering the unseen marines on land, who already had the Spaniards surrounded. A volunteer was requested to go out and signal to the fleet to stop firing. Sergeant Quick immediately responded, and in full view of the enemy stood and wig-wagged the Dolphin to stop firing. The signal flag was rent in several places, but the sergeant escaped injury. For this act he received a medal and honorable mention.

Among some later flags to come into possession of the Marine corps is the large United States flag used by the marines during the siege of the legation in Peking at the time of the Boxer riots. It may be recalled that the guard of the Oregon served in Peking. This was their post flag and was planted on the Tartar city wall, where it was jealously guarded. Later it was hoisted on the ruins of the Imperial Chien Men as a signal to the allied forces, and it has the honor of being the first signal the latter had that their friends were still living. The flag shows its hard usage at the hands of its enemies, being torn in several places by volleys of shot and shell assailing it.